

Work Group Meeting Abstracts – November/December

Environmental Work Group – November 20, 2002

- Received study implementation status reports from study leads on Study Plans W3, T2, F2, F9, G1, G2, W5, and W7.
- Received a list showing the tentative study plan interim report schedule for December 2002 and January 2003.
- Continued discussion of cumulative issues and introduced three large mounted maps displaying other projects that may be considered for inclusion in the cumulative effects analysis.
- DWR provided an update on the status of data management and Geographic Information System layer development.
- DWR introduced the Protection, Mitigation & Enhancement measure development process with a presentation outlining the history and timeline for this effort and discussed the work currently underway by the Plenary Group's Process Protocol Task Force.
- Agreed to sort through Appendix B of SD1 to pull out potential PM&E measures.
- The next Environmental Work Group meeting: Wednesday, December 11, 2002, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. at the Oroville Field Division.

Recreation and Socioeconomics Work Group – November 21, 2002

- Received update on all of recreation/socioeconomic studies. Overall, all 19 studies have been approved and funded, and all studies have started, except for SP-R17 (*Recreation Needs Analysis*). Also, the schedules for most studies have been accelerated, with completion dates in 2003.
- Rob MacKenzie (Butte County) made a presentation to the Recreation and Socioeconomics Work Group on boating access issues on Lake Oroville.
- The Work Group noted that based on modeling results of potential future conditions, they could consider a proportionate distribution of mitigation measures based on the probability of lake levels reaching certain thresholds and the associated recreational opportunities.
- Received an overview of the preliminary results from the recreation surveys and use monitoring data.
- Based on the implementation schedule for the various recreation and socioeconomic study plans, agreed to cancel the December 2002 Work Group meeting and reschedule its January 2003 meeting.
- The next Recreation and Socioeconomics Work Group meeting: Thursday, January 16, 2003, 6 pm – 10 pm, location to be determined.

Engineering and Operations Work Group – November 22, 2002

- Researcher with UC Davis Agriculture Extension reported results of a multi-year study begun in 1999 to investigate the effects of irrigation water temperature on rice production in Butte County.
- The participants suggested the presentation be provided to the Environmental and possibly Recreation and Socioeconomics work groups. A report out on his findings in early 2003 will be shared with the Engineering and Operations Work Group.
- Received presentation that show water releases to various users by percentage of total releases. Confirmed that the State Water Project contractors are at the bottom of the priority list for water supply after DWR

meets local water supply demands, instream requirements, downstream requirements, and flood control needs.

- Confirmed development has started on a temperature model that estimates temperatures at diversion points of the Afterbay and can be used to compare to a base run.
- Agreed that their next meeting should include a portion dedicated to meeting jointly with members of the Recreation and Socioeconomics Work Group to discuss their modeling needs related to recreation.
- Rescheduled their next Work Group meeting from December 13 to January 10.
- Next Engineering and Operations Work Group meeting: January 10, 2003, 9:30 am – 4:00 pm, The Depot, Oroville.

Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group – December 9, 2002

- Participants received status updates on the five Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics study plans.
- Reviewed preliminary land ownership map and provided copy for confirmation by Staff from DWR's Division of Land and Right of Way.
- Agreed that although the State holds fee-title ownership, it would be beneficial to map the controlling/maintaining and managing agencies on the land ownership map.
- An interim report for SP-LU1 will be made available prior to the next Work Group meeting in February 2003.
- Approximately 25 Key Observation Points (KOPs) are proposed to be included in the detailed study analysis.
- The next Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group meeting: Monday, February 24, 2003, 6:00 to 10:00 PM, to be determined.

Environmental Work Group – December 11, 2002

- Received study implementation status reports from study leads on Study Plans F3.1 Task 2C and 2D, 3.2 Task 3A, T2, and W3 Task 1A.
- Received copies of a letter DWR received recently from National Marine Fisheries Service that was promised at the end of the Cumulative/Endangered Species Act Guidelines Task Force meetings.
- Received update on the cumulative impacts assessment process that is following the steps outlined in the Draft Guidance document.
- Received update on the PM&E development process under consideration by the Plenary Group's Process Task Force and revised their approach to PM&E development.
- DWR and the consulting team try will distill the 39 fisheries resource goals for review by the Environmental Work Group at their January meeting.
- NMFS will provide a more detailed description of a PM&E measure, possibly from a recent relicensing.
- Agreed to reschedule the Environmental Work Group meeting in February to avoid a conflict with another technical meeting scheduled during the same week. February Work Group meeting will be February 19, 2003.
- Next Environmental Work Group meeting: Wednesday, January 29, 2003 from 9:30 – 3:30 pm, Kelly Ridge Golf Course Meeting Room.